

Amendments to the Specification:

FIGURE 1 illustrates exemplary operations which can be performed according to the invention. It is determined at 11 whether a new wide band channel should be selected. This decision can be made, for example, in response to unacceptable communication quality in an existing wireless communication link between two devices, or in response to user selection of a communication application that requires, for example, a relatively high transmission quality or a relatively high transmission data rate (for example audio, video or multimedia applications). The decision at 11 can also be received from the other end of the link. When it is determined at 11 that a new channel should be selected, a filter is appropriately tuned to a frequency band that is to be passively monitored, for example a wide band channel associated with a known interfering system, a desired transmission bandwidth, or a narrow band channel that is to be observed in order to obtain channel quality/interference information about a wider band channel that includes the narrow band channel. After making the desired passive channel quality/interference observations (for example RSSI measurements) at 13, it is determined at 14 whether another band is to be observed. For example, the bands of all or only some possible interferers may be checked. If another band is to be observed, the filter is tuned to that band at 12, and corresponding passive channel quality/interference observations are made at 13. When it is determined at 14 that the passive observations have been made on all desired frequency bands, it is then determined at ~~14~~ 15 whether the observed frequency bands are narrow bands from which a determination about a wider band is to be made. If not, then passive observations made at the other end of the link are obtained (as received from the other end) at 18, and a wide band channel (or channels) is selected (and reported to the other end of the link) at 19 based on the available passive observation information. Thereafter, operations return to 11.